

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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73

ACTION VOE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 FBIE-00 INSE-00 NSAE-00

/013 W

----- 080455

R 151254Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7017

UNCLAS ROME 6201

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: CVIS (VATICAL)

SUBJ: VISAS: OPERATIONS - VATICAN STATE PASSPORTS

REF: A. 75 STATE 248313, B. 75 STATE A-4139

1. APOSTOLIC NUNZIATURA HAS IN PAST SUBMITTED DIPLOMATIC NOTES TO EMBASSY REQUESTING ISSUANCE OF VISAS TO MEMBERS OF CLERGY WHO ARE BEARERS OF VATICAN OFFICIAL PASSPORTS BUT WHO ARE NOT RPT NOT VATICAN NATIONALS AND ARE NOT PROCEEDING TO US ON VATICAN BUSINESS BUT ONLY ON BAHALF OF THEIR INDIVIDUAL ORDERS OR FOR TOURISM. EMBASSY HAS HONORED THESE NOTES UP TO NOW AND ISSUED VISAS IN VATICAN PASSPORTS WITH VALIDITY ACCORDING TO APPENDIX C. SCHEDULE FOR ITALY.

2. HOWEVER, EMBASSY NOW QUESTIONS CORRECTNESS OF PAST PRACTICE. WHILE ISSUANCE OF B-1 VISAS TO PERSONS PROCEEDING TO APOSTOLIC DELEGATION IN WASHINGTON (REF A) AND OF G-3 VISAS TO PERSONS PROCEEDING TO HOLY SEE'S UN OBSERVER MISSION (REF B) AS WELL AS PRESUMABLY ISSUANCE OF C-3 VISAS IS FULLY AUTHORIZED, EMBASSY DOES NOT BELIEVE VATICAN PASSPORTS SHOULD BE HONORED FOR OTHER CATEGORIES, AS SUCH PERSONS ARE NOT NATIONALS OF VATICAN, WOULD BE CIRCUMVERTING POSSIBLY MORE RESTRICTIVE NIV VALIDITY AND FEES, AND WOULD POSSIBLY BE ABLE TO OBTAIN VISAS IN TWO CURRENTLY VALID DOCUMENTS WHICH WOULD BE CONTRARY TO 22 CFR 41.124 NOTE 4.

3. IN SUMMARY, VATICAN PASSPORT WOULD APPEAR TO FALL WITHIN UNCLASSIFIED

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SIMILAR CATEGORY AS THAT OF UN LAISSEZ-PASSER (22 CFR 41.50 NOTE

5). DEPT'S ADVICE SOLICITED. VOLPE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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